

LONDON ASSEMBLY

City Hall

The Queen's Walk

More London

London SE1 2AA

Tel: 020 7983 4000

www.london.gov.uk**Zack Polanski AM****Chair of the Environment Committee**

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London

(Sent by email)

6 October 2021

Dear Sadiq,

Environment Committee delegation to COP26

We are writing in the lead up to the forthcoming UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow from 31 October – 12 November 2021 to request that the Environment Committee Chair, and members of the Environment Committee, are included in the Greater London Authority's delegation.

You have set out your ambition for London to reach net zero emissions by 2030 and have highlighted your intention to use COP26 to highlight the vital role that London and cities around the world can play in tackling climate change¹. The Environment Committee has engaged closely and regularly with the range of issues, risks and potential consequences associated directly and indirectly with climate change for London, as well as hearing from stakeholders and experts.

It is crucial that the opportunity is not missed for London Assembly Members to contribute their experience and insight to the conference. The Committee is directly able to do this from its work gathering and understanding the perspectives of individuals, families, communities as well as

¹ [MQT 2021/3014](#), COP26, 15 July 2021

reflecting infrastructural impacts. It would be a missed opportunity not to be able to directly share this with, and hear from, other delegations from cities across the world.

The Environment Committee continues to work to understand, investigate and scrutinise how London is experiencing and adapting to the consequences of climate change. It has published a number of formative reports on environmental topics in recent years. In particular, as you know, in April 2020 the Committee published 'The Climate Emergency: Extreme Weather and Emissions'² that drew attention to London's vulnerability to flooding, drought, and heat. Now, we are preparing to hold a Committee investigation, in October, into climate change adaptation in the capital particularly in the light of recent flooding incidents in London in summer 2021.

We believe members of the Environment Committee should be given the opportunity to contribute to the GLA's delegation, including with 'blue zone' accreditation. We have also written to Alok Sharma, President of COP26, making the same request.

We look forward to hearing your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zack Polanski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small registered trademark symbol (®) at the end.

Zack Polanski AM
Chair of the Environment Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Devenish". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small registered trademark symbol (®) at the end.

Tony Devenish AM
Deputy Chair of the Environment Committee

² [The Climate Emergency: Extreme Weather and Emissions](#), London Assembly, April 2020